Kay's obituary

Mrs. Kay Doris Bovat, 86 years old of Westfield was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend to many.

She was a deeply devoted Jehovah's Witness for most of her life and was a member of the Westfield Congregation. She passed away peacefully on the 1st of September 2024 with her family by her side.

Kay lived in the cities of Springfield and Westfield most of her life. She was the lady of the house, raising 8 children and managing the Bovat household. She co-owned Don's Bakery with her beloved husband Mr. Donald Bovat. In her younger years she learned frugality by gardening, canning, sewing, and crocheting, which in turn helped her provide for her family. In her older years Kay was able to harness her inner artistic abilities. She expressed this in creative and wondrous ways, which included handmade bears, dolls, stained glass pieces, and drawing. She was able to touch so many lives by sending out her handcrafted artwork in the form of greeting cards.

She was predeceased by parents, Mrs. Doris Emma (Burbee) Atkins and Mr. Stanley Cebula. Her devoted husband of over 30 years Mr. Donald Bovat, her two lovely sons, Bryan, and John Rogers, as well as her lovely daughter, Mrs. Ann Marie Pierce.

Kay cherished all of her family that she left behind. She leaves behind to cherish her memory her beloved sisters, Ms. Linda Mas of Westfield, Mrs. Carol Tefts and her devoted husband Richard Tefts of Westfield and Mrs. JoAnn (Atkins) Ross of Springfield, Ma. Her brother Mr. Robert Cebula. She leaves behind her children Mr. Steve Rogers and his lovely wife Donna, Mr. David Bovat, Mr. Peter Bovat, and son in law Mr. Frank Pierce. Her beloved daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Kellogg, Ms. Debra Milczarski, Ms. Lisa Bovat, and her daughter-In-Law Ms. Trudy Rogers. She also leaves to cherish her memory 14 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. She will be deeply missed by all.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, September 14th, 1:00 p.m. at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, located at 117 Southwick Road, Westfield, MA 01085.

Many thanks to Beacon Hospice, Vantage Nursing Home and O'Connell Home Care for their loving and supportive care.

Willie's obituary

Mr. Willie Perlow Atkins Jr of Springfield, 56, of 28 Columbia Terrace, formally of 57 Marlborough Street died on Wednesday at Mercy Hospital. He was retired from Daniel O'Connell & Sons Construction Co. (now Daniel O'Connell's Sons) of which he was a dedicated and respectable skilled laborer of 32 years and formerly a proud member of Local Union 999.

He was one of the first Black construction workers ever employed by the firm in Western Massachusetts and was instrumental in the modern architectural landscape of Western Massachusetts including with the construction of notable landmarks such as the I-91 exchange, the William Edward Burghardt Du Bois Library at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, Ma, Holyoke Mall, Springfield's Central High School, Hartford Civic Center, Chestnut Towers, Springfield Civil Center and his final project with the firm before retiring in 1990 Springfield's Monarch Place in Downtown Springfield Ma.

Born in Columbia, S.C and raised and educated in Fairfax, SC as a child, he lived in the city of Springfield for 40 years. He was preceded by his parents Mr. Willie Perlow Atkins and Mrs. Sadie (Ash) Atkins and his sisters Mrs. Florie Barnett, Mrs. Earthen (Atkins) Holmes, Mrs. Marie Thomas and Mrs. Ethel Atkins.

He was formerly married to Mrs. Doris Emma Burbee of Westfield for over 21 years and maintained a close and loving friendship with her until her death in March of 1991.

He leaves behind his beloved wife of 18 years, the former Mrs. Mildred (Feazell) Lawson and his beloved, graceful and elegant daughters Mrs. JoAnn (Atkins) Ross and Ms. Patrica Feazell both of Springfield Ma and his two sons Officer Reginald Feazell and Officer Dennis Lawson both of Springfield, Ma. He also leaves to cherish his memory his beloved brother Mujahid Mohammad of Springfield, Ma and five sisters, Ms. Dorothy Atkins, Ms. Willie Mae Atkins, Mrs. Bessie Mae Gonzalez, Mrs. Janey Lee Lowery all of Springfield, Ma and Mrs. Jerlean (Maryann Atkins) Silva of Oakland, CA and 12 grandchildren of the Atkins, Feazell and Lawson families including Mr. Vincent Lawerence Ross Jr, Mr. Douglas Anthony Ross and Mr. Anthony Horne Jr and several nieces and nephews including his Ms. Michelle Atkins whom he loved as a daughter. The funeral was held private, with burial in Oak Grove Cemetery in Springfield, Ma. A public calling hour was set at Harrell Funeral Home. Memorial contributions were made to the American Cancer Society, 383 Dwight St., Holyoke, 01040 in his honor.

Mildred's obituary

Mrs. Mildred Lawson 1937 - 2003 -Mildred Lawson, 66, of 100 Canterbury Road, departed this life on Wednesday at Mercy Medical Center. She was born on April 26, 1937, and educated in Belzoni, Mississippi. She lived in Chicago IL and later moved to Springfield of which she was a resident for 31 years. She had been employed at Mercy Hospital for many years as senior housekeeper. She was preceded by her parents Mr. Lavell F. Feazell and Lucille Brown, her sister Mrs. Florida Kickerson and her former husband Mr. Willie Perlow Atkins Jr of Springfield, Ma formerly of Columbia, South Carolina. She is survived by two sons, Officer Reginald Feazell and his beloved wife, Sharon and Officer Dennis Lawson and two daughters, Ms. Patrica Feazell and Mrs. Joann (Atkins) Ross all of Springfield and several grandchildren including one of her favorite grandsons Douglas. Services were private and burial was held in Forestdale Cemetery in Holyoke. Harrell Funeral Home was in charge.